

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 5247

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 1170



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by: (LAB)

## AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND AMBULANCE COMPANIES AND THE DEFINITION OF EMPLOYER UNDER THE STATE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 31-367 of the general statutes is
- 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
- 3 passage):
- 4 (d) "Employer" means the state and any political subdivision thereof
- 5 and, except as provided in section 31-369, as amended by this act, any
- 6 volunteer fire department and any volunteer ambulance company;
- 7 Sec. 2. Section 31-369 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 8 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 9 (a) This chapter applies to all employers, employees and places of
- 10 employment in the state except the following: (1) Employees of the
- 11 United States government; [and] (2) working conditions of employees
- 12 over which federal agencies other than the United States Department of
- 13 Labor exercise statutory authority to prescribe or enforce standards or

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- 14 regulations affecting occupational safety and health; and (3) any
- 15 <u>volunteer fire department or volunteer ambulance company that is able</u>
- 16 to demonstrate such department or company is regulated by the
- 17 Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 USC 651 et seq., as
- 18 <u>amended from time to time</u>.

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- 19 (b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to supersede or in any manner affect any workers' compensation law or to enlarge, diminish or affect in any manner common law or statutory rights, duties or liabilities of employers or employees, under any law with respect to injuries, diseases or death of employees arising out of and in the course of employment.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 31-382 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
  - (c) Any employer who has received a citation for a violation of the requirements of sections 31-369, as amended by this act, and 31-370, of any standard or order promulgated pursuant to section 31-372, or of regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, which violation is specifically determined not to be of a serious nature, may be assessed a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars for each such violation, except any volunteer fire department and any volunteer ambulance company shall, for the first such violation, only be issued a written warning.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	from passage	31-367(d)
Sec. 2	from passage	31-369
Sec. 3	from passage	31-382(c)

## Statement of Purpose:

To allow volunteer fire departments and volunteer ambulance companies to be under CONN-OSHA jurisdiction.

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[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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